

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Title of the application to read as follows:

“INTERVERTEBRAL IMPLANT WITH MOVEABLE ENDCAPS”

Please add “FIELD OF INVENTION” prior to paragraph [0001] in United States Published Application No. 2007/0073395.

Please amend paragraph [0001] to read as follows:

[0001] The invention concerns anchoring means for intervertebral implants ~~according to the preamble of patent claim 1~~, as well as an intervertebral implant with two anchoring parts ~~according to the preamble of patent claim 9~~ and a method to fasten an intervertebral implant on adjacent bodies of the vertebra ~~according to the preamble of patent claim 16~~.

Please add “BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION” prior to paragraph [0002].

Please amend paragraph [0002] to read as follows:

[0002] Intervertebral implants, that may be constructed, for example, as intervertebral disc prosthesis ~~protheses~~ and are introduced into the intervertebral space between two adjacent intervertebral discs

after the removal of a damaged, natural intervertebral disc or of a damaged nucleus of an intervertebral disc, have to be fixed on the end surfaces of the adjacent bodies of the vertebra, so that the implant could not move with the passage of time. In the fixing of the implant on the end plates of the bodies of the vertebra one differentiates between primary and secondary stabilization~~-stabilisation~~. The primary stabilization~~-stabilisation~~ is necessary immediately following the operation and is preferably carried out by introducing anchoring means, fitted to the implant, into the end plates on the adjacent bodies of the vertebra. The secondary stabilization~~-stabilisation~~ is achieved by the bone growing on the implant, but one has to reckon with a period of approx. 6 weeks until an adequate fixing of the implant. From U.S. Pat. No. 5,683,465 Shinn an intervertebral disc prosthesis is known, that in one embodiment is fixed on the end plates of the adjacent bodies of the vertebra by means of pins that can pass through the cover plates fitted to the exterior of the implant. It is a disadvantage of this fixing when using these pins, that the pins have to be fastened on the end plates either prior to the introduction of the intervertebral disc prosthesis into the intervertebral space, what during the introduction of the implant into the intervertebral space demands an increased traction of both bodies of the vertebra, or that after the introduction of the implant into the intervertebral space the pins have to be individually pressed into the end plates of the adjacent bodies of the vertebra, resulting in a prolonged operating time.

Please add "SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION" prior to paragraph [0003].

Please amend paragraph [0003] to read as follows:

[0003] This is where the invention wants to provide remedy. The object of the invention is to produce

anchoring means for intervertebral implants, that can be brought into a first position for the purpose of introducing the implant in the scraped out intervertebral space, where they do not project with their ends past the cover plates and after the introduction of the implant can be brought in a simple manner into a second, lockable position, where the anchoring means are pressed into the end plates of the adjacent bodies of the vertebra and serve the purpose of primary stabilization~~stabilisation~~ of the implant.

Please amend paragraph [0004] to read as follows:

[0004] The invention achieves this objective with anchoring means for intervertebral implants having an anchoring part comprising a central axis and two end faces transverse to the central axis, each anchoring means comprises at least two spikes that protrude past the end faces, are parallel to the central axis and can be pressed into an end plate of a body of the vertebra, characterized in that the anchoring part comprises a hollow space passing through parallel to the central axis, the anchoring part comprises fastening means by means of which the anchoring part can be detachably locked on an intervertebral implant, the intervertebral implant comprises a closing plate each that intersects the central axis, and the closing plates can pass through the hollow spaces in the anchoring parts~~the features of claim 1~~, as well as ~~with an intervertebral implant having the features of claim 9 and with a method to fix an~~ intervertebral implant comprising the steps a) enabling the access to the intervertebral space by means of an antero-lateral, ventral lateral, transperitoneal or retroperitoneal surgical procedure, b) tractioning both bodies of the vertebra adjacent to the intervertebral space, c) scraping out the intervertebral space, d) introducing the intervertebral implant with the anchoring means pushed together, e) moving the anchoring parts axially away from one another until the spikes are adequately pressed into the base plate

or the cover plate of the adjacent bodies of the vertebra, and f) fixing the fastening means on the
intervertebral implant according to claim 16.

Please add “BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS”
prior to paragraph [0029].

Please add “DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION” prior to paragraph [0035].